

ARCHITECTURAL

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING
BEFORE THE VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD
ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION

COMMISSION

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had before the Village of
Northfield Architectural Commission taken at the Village of
Northfield, 361 Happ Road, First Floor Board Room,
Northfield, Illinois on the 8th day of May, 2023 at the
hour of 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

JEFFREY EIGEL, Chairman
KATHRYN TALTY
PETER WACHTER
NANCY NAZARIAN
PATRICIA MORRELL

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ANDREW BOWYER
JOE MCINERNEY

ALSO PRESENT:

STEVE GUTIERREZ, Community Development Director
CHARLES ORTH, Trustee Liaison

1 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: I'd like to call to order the May
2 8th, 2023 meeting of the Architectural Commission. My
3 name is Jeff Eigel and I'm the Chair. Joining us are
4 Steve Gutierrez, Village of Northfield, and Charles
5 Orth, Trustee Liaison.
6 If the Commissioners could now please introduce
7 themselves?
8 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Nancy Nazarian.
9 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: Peter Wachter.
10 COMMISSIONER TALTY: Kathryn Talty.
11 COMMISSIONER MORRELL: Patty Morrell.
12 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: Could someone please raise the
13 motion to --
14 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: Would the Chair entertain a
15 motion to vote on the minutes from the last meeting?
16 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: That's the next thing that I was
17 going to say.
18 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: Oh, okay.
19 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: Would somebody, and please take it
20 away, motion to approve the December 12th meeting
21 minutes?
22 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: I motion that we vote on the
23 minutes.
24 COMMISSIONER MORRELL: Second.
25 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: All in favor?
26 (Chorus of ayes.)
27 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: All opposed?
28 (No response.)
29 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: All right, at this point, the item
30 on our agenda this evening is signage review for 401
31 Wagner Road, consideration of a request to replace
32 signage on the existing scoreboard at Willow Park.
33 Would the representatives for Willow Park please
34 approach the podium and be sworn in?
35 MR. BYRON: Hello, I'm Bill Byron, Executive
36 Director of Park District.
37 (Witness sworn.)
38 MR. BYRON: I'm really just here to answer
39 questions on anything.
40 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: Maybe you can make a really quick
41 presentation of what you're requesting.
42 MR. BYRON: Sure. Okay, so in 2011, we put
43 scoreboards in. The Commission, and the Plan and Zoning
44 first possibly too, approved the variance to add a
45 scoreboard, to put a scoreboard on our peewee baseball
46 field and on our pony field. Over the years, the nature
47 of use on the pony field has shifted from Kenilworth-
48 Winnetka Baseball Association into New Trier Feeder
49 Baseball. New Trier Feeder approached KWBA to ask if
50 they could swap out the KWBA Bulldogs sign at the top
51 for the New Trier Feeder Baseball sign.
52 At Park District, we have no issue with that. The
53 signs are virtually identical. It's just the top
54 aluminum powder coated panel with logo and decal on it.

1 You see on these pictures kind of show how it looks now
2 and how the new scoreboard panel would look. That's
3 basically it. Pretty straight forward.
4 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: Is there still a Bulldogs?
5 MR. BYRON: There are, yes.
6 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: So, the Nels Johnson Park is still
7 applicable.
8 MR. BYRON: It is, yes.
9 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: Yes, okay.
10 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: Is that advertising panel on
11 the bottom; has that been there a long time with the
12 Nels Johnson's name on it?
13 MR. BYRON: It has, yes. There was Vienna Beef,
14 they were the first advertiser that came, they're
15 basically gone, and they were trying to actually cover
16 the cost of those scoreboards, and then it switched to
17 Nels Johnson.
18 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: The color on the
19 photograph, is that, where it says Home of the New Trier
20 Feeder Baseball, is that the true color? It's not going
21 to be the same blue as the Home of the KWBA Bulldogs,
22 right?
23 MR. BYRON: Correct. It's slightly more navy. The
24 KWBA panel is more, well, I do have this sample if you
25 want to pass it around?
26 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Oh, that's fine. I just
27 wanted to make sure of that.
28 MR. GUTIERREZ: Bill, let's just pass that around.
29 MR. BYRON: Sure thing.
30 MR. GUTIERREZ: Thank you.
31 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: In business, they call that
32 a cube panel.
33 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Yes, I like the color. I
34 actually like the new color more than the old color.
35 MR. BYRON: Yes, it's very nice.
36 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: And the prints --
37 MR. BYRON: Well, prints are true to the Pantone
38 color. Pretty close, I mean, our printer never does it
39 perfectly, but they're --
40 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: No, it's better than most.
41 MR. BYRON: That's good.
42 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: And this is going to be
43 manufactured by, I see a sheet from All American
44 Scoreboards?
45 MR. BYRON: Yes.
46 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: Are they going to make and
47 install the sign?
48 MR. BYRON: They do make them. We install them,
49 but they make them, they're producing the sign, yes.
50 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: So, there's some sheet metal
51 screws around --
52 MR. BYRON: You got it, real simple, yes.
53 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: Okay.
54 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: Any additional questions?

1 (No response.)
2 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: It doesn't appear that there any
3 members of the public, so we won't be fielding any
4 questions from the public tonight. I think if there are
5 no more questions, we might be ready for a motion.
6 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Yes. This was --
7 COMMISSIONER TALTY: Sure, I'll make the motion.
8 **Motion to approve the proposed sign panel for the**
9 **scoreboard at the pony baseball field in Willow Park**
10 **located at 401 Wagner Road.**
11 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: And I'll second the motion.
12 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: Could we please have a vote?
13 (Chorus of ayes.)
14 MR. BYRON: Thank you very much.
15 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: It passes, thank you.
16 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: So, I was thinking, I was
17 wondering, you know, because of the pandemic, if certain
18 matters discussed tonight could fall on the Village just
19 as kind of an inside case if, sure, if we would want to.
20 I know we've all missed seeing each other because we
21 haven't had a big agenda lately, but I'm just saying
22 maybe keep in mind for the future if some of these
23 things could be handled in-house.
24 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: Although I don't think that would
25 be the reasoning here. It was for purposes of this
26 Commission and ultimate but, you know, maybe for other
27 reasons that might be --
28 MR. GUTIERREZ: What was the question, I'm sorry?
29 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: There was a question as to whether
30 agenda items like this would seem like it might be sort
31 of in-house, should be handled in-house.
32 MR. GUTIERREZ: This was a bit of a close call.
33 For commercial signage, any change in the sign face,
34 unless it's exactly a replacement in kind or a repair or
35 something like that, would not come to you. But any
36 change, any substantive change in the characters, logos,
37 colors, the message, that would automatically come to
38 you by ordinance.
39 The ordinance may be a little less clear about a
40 fellow governmental agency, but the scoreboards when
41 they first went in, there was a lot of discussion, there
42 was a lot of attention paid to them. So, that kind of
43 tips the balance when I decided that this needed your
44 review. So, that's kind of the calculus that I used
45 when we sent this forward to you.
46 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: Sure, and there is a commercial
47 aspect to the sign; it's not just informational.
48 COMMISSIONER MORRELL: Yes.
49 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: That's right.
50 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: Okay, just in terms of like
51 wrapping up, the sort of protocol for this is June 12th,
52 is that on the calendar?
53 MR. GUTIERREZ: Yes. We do have a couple of
54 applications in for review that are very rough right

1 now. They're right at the tipping on being complete
2 complete applications versus incomplete, so I'll know by
3 the end of the week, but we do have to two sport court
4 applications.

5 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: Okay, for private residence?

6 MR. GUTIERREZ: Private, yes. For single-family
7 residential, if you want to put a sport court in, those
8 are subject to the Architectural Commission's approval.

9 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Is there any rule about
10 recusal for, if we know any of these people?

11 MR. GUTIERREZ: If you have an economic interest in
12 the subject property you would have a conflict of
13 interest, but if it's simply a neighbor or a friend,
14 that does not constitute a conflict.

15 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Okay.

16 MR. GUTIERREZ: If you're uncomfortable, the bottom
17 line question is, do you think you can make a --

18 MR. ORTH: Fair and impartial.

19 MR. GUTIERREZ: -- fair and impartial decision
20 about what's before you. If you don't feel you can,
21 then you could recuse yourself, but you're not required
22 to.

23 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: Okay, fair enough.

24 COMMISSIONER WACHTER: Well, if their name was
25 Hatfield and my name was McCoy, I think we'd have a
26 problem.

27 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: Okay, so sounds like a plan for
28 that for now.

29 Do we have a motion to adjourn?

30 COMMISSIONER NAZARIAN: I'll make the motion to
31 adjourn.

32 COMMISSIONER TALTY: Second.

33 CHAIRMAN EIGEL: So moved.

34 (Whereupon, at 7:12 p.m., the above meeting
35 was adjourned.)
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39 APPROVED 6/12/23
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